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Application No.: 10/509,747

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 (Currently Amended): A positive electrode current collector for a manganese dry battery comprising: a carbon rod; and either one of a paraffin wax containing hydrocarbon whose molecular weight is 300 to 500 and a microcrystalline wax containing hydrocarbon whose molecular weight is 500 to 800, which is impregnated into said carbon rod,

characterized in that the endothermic amount of said paraffin wax or said microcrystalline wax per 1 g of said positive electrode current collector obtained by differential scanning calorimetry at 20 to 45°C is not more than 1.0 J/g, and

wherein said carbon rod has a density of 1.55 to ~~[[1.75]]~~ 1.65 g/cm³.

2 (Currently Amended): A positive electrode current collector for a manganese dry battery comprising: a carbon rod; and either one of a paraffin wax containing hydrocarbon whose molecular weight is 300 to 500 and a microcrystalline wax containing hydrocarbon whose molecular weight is 500 to 800, which is impregnated into said carbon rod,

characterized in that the endothermic amount of said paraffin wax or said microcrystalline wax per 1 g of said positive electrode current collector obtained by differential scanning calorimetry at 20 to 45°C is not more than 1.0 J/g, and

by satisfying the relational expression:

$$90 < Y + 50.5X < 100$$

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wherein X is the density (g/cm^3) of said carbon rod, and Y is the entire endothermic amount (J/g) of said positive electrode current collector obtained by differential scanning calorimetry at 20 to 100°C , and $Y > 0$, and

wherein said carbon rod has a density of 1.55 to 1.65 g/cm^3 .

3 (Previously Presented): The positive electrode current collector for a manganese dry battery in accordance with Claim 2, wherein said carbon rod has a density of 1.55 to 1.75 g/cm^3 .

4 (Original): The positive electrode current collector for a manganese dry battery in accordance with Claim 1, wherein in the entire endothermic amount of said positive electrode current collector obtained by differential scanning calorimetry at 20 to 100°C , the endothermic amount obtained by differential scanning calorimetry at 20 to 55°C is not more than 25%, and the endothermic amount obtained by differential scanning calorimetry at 20 to 60°C is more than 25% and not more than 40%.

5 (Original): The positive electrode current collector for a manganese dry battery in accordance with Claim 4, wherein in the entire endothermic amount of said positive electrode current collector obtained by differential scanning calorimetry at 20 to 100°C , the endothermic amount obtained by differential scanning calorimetry at 20 to 65°C is more than 40% and not more than 70%.

6 (Currently Amended): A manganese dry battery comprising a positive electrode current collector: said positive current collector comprising a carbon rod and either one of a paraffin wax containing hydrocarbon whose molecular weight is 300 to 500 and a microcrystalline wax containing hydrocarbon whose molecular weight is 500 to 800, which is impregnated into said carbon rod,

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characterized in that the endothermic amount of said paraffin wax or said microcrystalline wax per 1 g of said positive electrode current collector obtained by differential scanning calorimetry at 20 to 45°C is not more than 1.0 J/g, and

wherein said carbon rod has a density of 1.55 to [[1.75]] 1.65 g/cm³.